

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

June 8, 2007

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

SUBJECT: Request for Approval to Execute a Contract with The Hawaii  
Tourism Authority for Improvements to Akaka Falls State Park,  
Hawaii and Resource Protection Implementation for Haena State  
Park, Kauai, and Kekaha Kai State Park, Hawaii

The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) has approved the use of \$1,000,000 in  
Transient Accommodations Tax funds for improvements to priority visitor destination sites.  
This is a request to enter into a contract with the HTA for projects at three of the sites.

The department is proposing to budget \$800,000 for walkway, stairway, and railing  
reconstruction at Akaka Falls State Park on the island of Hawaii. The second project is  
\$200,000 for Resource protection through providing rangers at Haena State Park, and Kekaha  
State Park and to support expanded resource protection statewide. Rangers are currently  
working at these parks through an agreement with HTA. This will continue that program  
until the State can create positions for this purpose.

RECOMMENDATION:

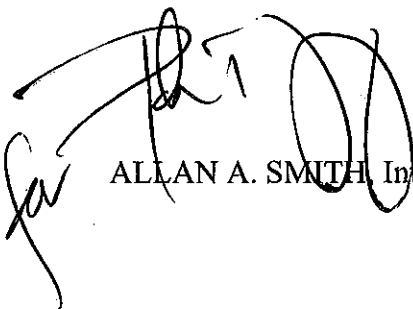
That the Board authorize the Chairperson to execute a contract with the Hawaii  
Tourism Authority to make improvements to Akaka Falls State Park, and to provide  
continued resource protection at the Haena State Park and Kekaha Kai State Park.

Respectfully submitted,



DANIEL S. QUINN  
State Parks Administrator

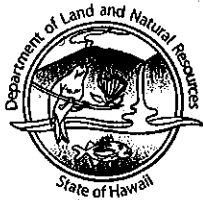
APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



ALLAN A. SMITH, Interim Chairperson

ITEM E-2

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

April 11, 2007

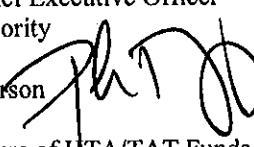
PETER T. YOUNG  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - LAND  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAIKOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mr. Rex Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
Hawaii Tourism Authority

**FROM:** Peter Young, Chairperson 

**SUBJECT:** Request for Expenditure of HTA/TAT Funds

This is to request approval of two projects to be implemented using HTA Transient Accommodations Tax funds (formerly referred to as "Proviso" funds). The following proposed projects are continuing projects from prior grants from HTA:

1. Akaka Falls State Park, Hawaii, Pathway, stairway and handrail improvements: \$800,000

This project received \$800,000 in funding in FY 2006 from HTA for improvements to the loop trail including pathway, stairway, and handrail repairs and replacement. As noted in our letter dated May 11, 2006, the overall project has been divided into three phases: Phase 1 – portion of the east leg of the loop trail to Kahuna Falls; Phase 2 – completion of the east leg and completion of the west leg leading to Akaka Falls; and Phase 3 – the north leg of the loop trail connecting Akaka Falls and Kahuna Falls.

The 2006 funding enabled the start of Phase 1, currently underway with completion later this year. Due to the high cost of construction for this project, we estimate that Phase 2 will cost approximately \$800,000, and Phase 3 costs may range from \$1,400,000 to \$1,600,000. This request is for \$800,000 for completion of Phase 2. If this funding is approved and transferred to DLNR during FY 2007 or by the start of FY 2008, we may be able to continue construction to the west leg, thus saving down time between phases which will minimize impacts to park visitors and optimize project funds. We will be seeking future funding for the completion of the overall project.

2. Haena State Park, Kauai, and Kekaha Kai State Park, Hawaii, Resource protection implementation: \$200,000

This project received \$150,000 in FY 2005 for the establishment and implementation of resource protection objectives through the increased presence of interpretive technician positions or "rangers" at Haena State Park, Kauai and Kekaha Kai State Park, Hawaii. In the Natural Resource Assessment Report prepared by HTA ("NRAR"), the increased usage of these areas resulted in impacts upon its resources and threats to public health and safety. The rangers establish a presence that provides information and education, monitors resource protection, and assists with public safety, including

Mr. Rex Johnson  
Page 2 of 2

parking direction and control. Since the funding of these positions, rangers in Haena and Kekaha Kai have ensured the State's responsibility for resource protection and public safety, and have provided vital interpretive information regarding significant resources in the area and alerting of natural hazard areas.

This request is for \$200,000 to continue resource protection in these areas and support expanded resource protection statewide. Currently before the 2007 State Legislature, DLNR is seeking to expand resource protection statewide and include NRAR designated areas such as Diamond Head State Monument, Oahu and Kealakekua Bay State Historical Park, Hawaii. Staff in the expanded resource protection program will be able to monitor other areas identified in the NRAR. The requested funding is needed to continue staffing at Haena and Kekaha Kai during the formal establishment of the resource protection program, and provide staff support with material, equipment, and vehicle acquisitions.

In summary, we request your approval to enter into an agreement with HTA to use \$1,000,000 in HTA/TAT funds for projects in these important visitor destination areas.

Attachment

c: Muriel Anderson  
Robbie Kane

A handwritten signature, likely of Muriel Anderson, in dark ink.

# PROPOSED STATE PARKS TAT – HTA PROJECTS – FY 07

District	Park	Project Description	TAT – HTA Funds
Hawaii	Akaka Falls State Park	<p>Pathway, stairway and handrail improvements, Phase 2:</p> <p>Reconstruction of significantly damaged sections of the east and west legs of the .5-mile loop walkway to Akaka Falls and Kahuna Falls lookouts: including repaving, stairway repair, and handrail replacements; and compliance with applicable ADAG requirements or guidelines.</p> <p>HTA NRA: The deterioration of the surface of some path areas, broken railings along slippery portions of the stairs, and deteriorated stairs to the beginning of the loop were identified.</p> <p>DLNR intends to complete the construction of these improvements. Due to high construction costs, the project has been divided into 3 phases: Phase 1, in progress, portions of the east leg to the Kahuna Falls lookout; Phase 2, remainder of the east leg and all of the west leg to the Akaka Falls lookout; and Phase 3, north leg connecting the Akaka Falls and Kahuna Falls lookouts. DLNR will be seeking Phase 3 funding.</p>	<p>\$800,000 (Phase 2 construction)</p> <p>Design completed.</p> <p>Estimated construction costs: Phase 1: \$750,000 (on-going). Phase 2: \$800,000. Phase 3: \$1,400,000 - \$1,600,000 (estimate)</p>
Kauai	Haena State Park	<p>Resource protection implementation:</p> <p>Continued implementation of resource protection through the State Park ranger program. The ranger provides information and education, monitors resource protection, and assists with public safety for visitors to the parks. The rangers have ensured the State's responsibility for resource protection and public safety, and have provided vital interpretive information regarding significant resources in the area and alerting of natural hazard areas</p> <p>HTA NRA: Increased usage of Haena State Park has resulted in unsafe traffic conditions, threats to significant cultural and environmental resources, and unsanitary facility conditions.</p> <p>DLNR intends to expand the program statewide and the requested funding will enable continued resource protection and support staff costs and needs for material, equipment and vehicle acquisitions. Formal establishment of the program is before the 2007 State Legislature.</p>	<p>\$200,000</p> <p>Continued resource protection</p>
Hawaii	Kekaha Kai State Park		
Total			\$1,000,000